

PENALTIES

Person or Employer who willfully violates the law are subject to the following penalties:

Each violation will be subject to fines.

Smoking violations:

Smoking in a prohibited area:

- **First violation:** Penalties of not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000.
- **Subsequent violation:** Penalties of not less than \$200 and not more than \$1,000.

Failure to notify person observed to be smoking to stop the activity:

Penalty of \$500; each day violation continues is a separate offense.

Signage violations:

Obscuring, defacing a sign:

Penalty of \$500.

Failure to post a sign: Penalty of \$500; each day violation continues is a separate offense.

WHERE CAN I GET INFORMATION ON QUITTING?

If you or your employees smoke and want to quit call 1-800-QUIT NOW (1-800-784-8669).

District of Columbia

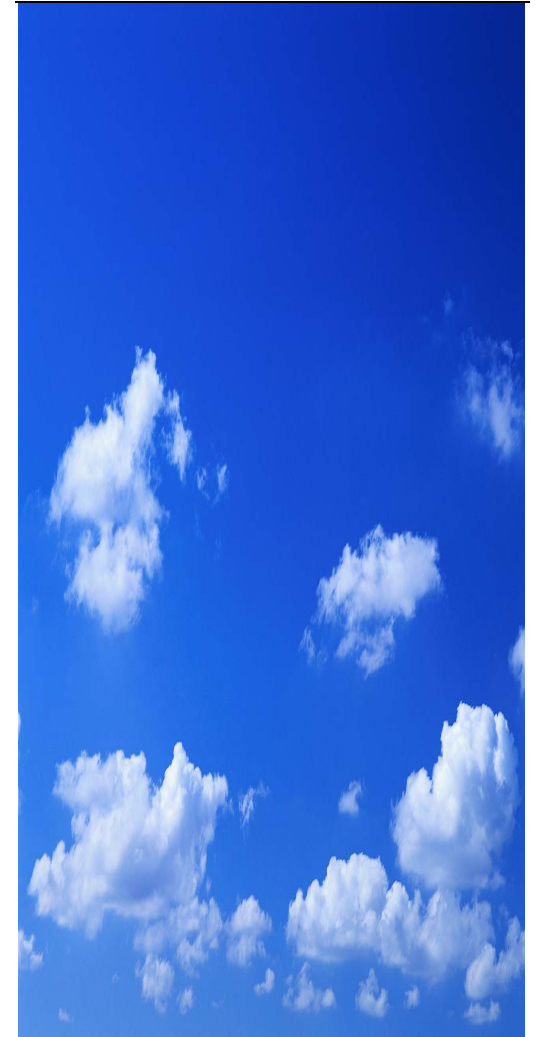


Department of Health

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www.doh.dc.gov



A GUIDE TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SMOKE-FREE WORKPLACES LAW



Secondhand smoke is a proven health hazard. The Department of Health Functions Clarification Amendment Act of 2006 prohibits smoking in most public places. This law is effective April 3, 2006. It is a violation of District law for any person to smoke in an area where it is prohibited. It is also a violation for an employer, owner, manager, or person in authority to permit smoking in prohibited areas or fail to post “No Smoking” signs.

For more information, or to order free “No Smoking” signs, contact the District of Columbia Tobacco Control Program at (202) 671-5000 or visit the Department of Health website at www.doh.dc.gov.

PUBLIC PLACES

According to the law, smoking is prohibited in all enclosed public places in the District of Columbia, including but not limited to:

- Banks
- Educational facilities
- Health care facilities
- Laundromats
- Public transportation facilities
- Reception areas
- Restaurants
- Retail food production and marketing establishments
- Retail service establishments
- Retail stores
- Shopping malls
- Sports arenas
- Theaters
- Waiting rooms

* The law allows smoking in the bar areas of restaurants, taverns, nightclubs, brew pub, and clubs until **January 1, 2007**.

WORKPLACES

The law requires that virtually all establishments and businesses with employees be smoke-free. This includes work areas, employee lounges, restrooms, conference rooms, classrooms, employee cafeterias, hallways, and vehicles owned by a private employer. Private residences are exempt unless used as a childcare, adult day care or health care facility.

***Effective January 1, 2007,
smoking will be prohibited in
all places of employment and
indoor public places at all
times.***

HOW TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW LAW

- **Update workplace smoking policies** to reflect the new law.
- **Post “no smoking” signs** at all entrances as required including bathrooms, stairwells on each floor, bulletin boards, and in other prominent places.

- **Talk with customers and employees** about the law and methods to comply with the law.
- **Remove all ashtrays** from the premises.
- **Contact the Department of Health Tobacco Control Program** for additional information and for compliance support at **202 671-5000**.
- In addition, you can access the Department’s website at www.doh.dc.gov.

ENFORCEMENT

The District of Columbia Department of Health Bureau of Community Hygiene staff is responsible for enforcement of the law. Staff conducts routine and complaint-driven inspections to determine compliance with the Smoke-Free Workplaces Law.

HOW TO REGISTER A COMPLAINT

If you would like to register a complaint, you may contact the Department of Health at **(202) 671-5000**, or visit the **Department of Health website at www.doh.dc.gov**.